



SOMARTS
cultural center

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**SOMARTS CULTURAL CENTER PRESENTS
FEAST OF WORDS:
A STORYTELLING POTLUCK**

*November features Andrew Lam and graffEats,
potluck, open mic and more!*

San Francisco, CA, October 20, 2010 — SOMArts Cultural Center presents *Feast of Words: A Storytelling Potluck*, a monthly event that is part social, part reading series, and part inspiration for writers and foodies alike. Co-hosted by Irina Zadov and Lex Leifheit, Feast of Words takes place on the first Tuesday of each month. Guests are invited to bring a potluck dish and/or a six-minute themed reading. Each month features short writing exercises, shared food and featured culinary and literary guests.

November's writing theme is "Home Away From Home" and features literary and culinary guests Andrew Lam, and Blair Warsham (of graffEats Guerilla Dining), respectively. Feast of Words starts at 7:00pm on Tuesday, November 2. Admission is \$10 or free with a potluck dish, tickets are available online at <http://feastofwords.eventbrite.com>. Open mic signup is limited to six spots, six minutes each and begins at 6:30pm. Writers should choose a work that fits in with the theme.

November's literary guest **Andrew Lam** is co-founder of New America Media, an association of over 2000 ethnic media organizations in America. He was a regular commentator on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered." A three-time winner of the Professional Journalist Award, Lam was also a John S. Knight Fellow at Stanford University.

Lam's book, [Perfume Dreams: Reflections on the Vietnamese Diaspora](#) won a Pen American Award in 2006. His new book [East Eats West: Writing in Two Hemispheres](#) was published September 2010.

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Lam recently finished a collection of short stories called "Birds of Paradise."



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Featured culinary guest, **executive chef Blair Warsham of [graffEats Guerilla Dining](#)**, combines his education, training and travels abroad to create his playful and soulful modern American dishes using the best in locally sourced, sustainable, organic ingredients. In early 2009, after the closure of his much beloved restaurant Tinderbox and a brief stint at Cetrella in Half Moon Bay, Warsham launched graffEats to create an entirely different type of dining experience with a new dynamic and give back to the community.

Lex Leifheit is the executive director of SOMArts Cultural Center. She co-founded the High Street Writers Collective in Connecticut and has organized readings online, on street corners, and in storefronts as well as hallowed institutions.

Irina Zadov is the Director of Experience and Programs at Zeum: San Francisco Children's Museum. She is a practicing artist with a passion for bringing people together through food, stories, and romps through the imagination.

About the SOMArts Studio Series

The SOMArts (South of Market Arts, Resources, Technology, and Services) Studio Series is an informal assemblage of arts classes and events designed to encourage the production of contemporary work by artists of all ages and skill levels in San Francisco.

Listing Info:

What: Feast of Words: A Writers Potluck

Where: SOMArts Cultural Center (934 Brannan St, between 8th and 9th)

When: 7:00pm to 9:00pm, doors open at 6:30pm

What else: \$10, free admission with potluck dish. For more information visit <http://feastofwords.eventbrite.com> or write feastofwords@somarts.org

ABOUT SOMArTS CULTURAL CENTER

SOMArts (South of Market Arts, Resources, Technology, and Services) was founded in 1979 and operates the South of Market Cultural Center, one of four city-owned cultural facilities in San Francisco. SOMArts supports exhibitions, performances, classes and other collaborations that serve its mission: to promote and nurture art on the community level and foster an appreciation of and respect for all cultures.

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For more information about upcoming events, space rentals and technical services, visit www.somarts.org or call 415-863-1414. SOMArts programs are supported by the San Francisco Arts Commission's Community Arts and Education Program, with funding from Grants for the Arts/San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund.

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